

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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Amendments & Claim Status

[1] This “Examiner’s Statement of Reasons for Allowance” is responsive to “Amendment” received Jul. 10, 2009. Claims 1, 4, 6-17, 19-30, and 32-40 remain pending; claims 2-3, 5, 18, and 31 cancelled.

Response to Arguments

Remarks Persuasive regarding Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101, 112

[2] Amendment at 13 regarding rejected Claims 1, 4, 6-17, and 19-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; rejected Claims 27-30 and 32-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; and rejected Claims 1, 4, 6-17, 19-26, and 39-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 have been respectfully and fully considered, and are found persuasive.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101, 112

[3] In response to Amendment at 13, the previous 35 U.S.C. § 101, 112 rejections are withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

[4] Claims 1, 4, 6-17, 19-30, and 32-40 allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

[5] The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding **Claim 14**, while the prior art of record teaches Claims 1 and 14, Oct. 31, 2007 (see Office Action at p. 5-7, 13-14), the prior art of record does not teach (i) statistically fitting parameters of a selected parametric transform function to a joint pixel value histogram, wherein each of the first and second medical images is one of a digitized analog image and a digitally acquired image, and wherein the plurality of predetermined parametric transform functions includes: functions (1)-(4).

Claims 1, 27, 38, and 40 allowable by analogy. Claims 4, 6-13, 15-17, 19-26, 28-30, and 32-38 allowable by dependency.

[6] Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

[7] Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID P. RASHID whose telephone number is (571)270-1578 and fax number (571)270-2578. The examiner can normally be reached Monday - Friday 7:30 - 17:00 ET.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on (571) 272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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